

Appl'n No: 10/561,063
Amdt dated June 17, 2008
Reply to Office action of March 17, 2008

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached replacement sheets of drawings, including Figures 1, 2, and 4, replace the previously submitted sheets of drawings including Figures 1, 2, and 4. More specifically, Applicant has amended Figures 1 and 4. Each replacement sheet has been clearly labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header.

Attachment: 2 Replacement Sheets of drawings including Figures 1, 2, and 4

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, and 4-9 are pending in the application. Claim 3 has been cancelled. Claims 8 and 9 have been added. Claims 1, 2, 4, and 7 have been amended. Claims 1, 8, and 9 are in independent form.

Drawings

Applicants have attached 2 replacement sheets of drawings hereto directly following these Remarks. Each replacement sheet has been labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header as per 37 C.F.R. §1.121(d). Applicant attests that no new matter has been added thereto.

The following changes have been made in amended Figure 1:

- i) Reference character "18" has been added to identify the compartment 18.

The following changes have been made in amended Figure 4:

- i) Reference character "7" has been amended to "6" to identify the inner wall 6.
- ii) Reference character "6" has been amended to "7" to identify the outer wall 7.
- iii) Reference character "18" has been added to identify the compartment 18.

Claim Objections

1. Claim 7 is objected to under 37 C.F.R. §1.75(c) as being in improper form because a multiple dependent claim cannot depend from another multiple dependent claim. In response, Applicant has amended claim 7 to be singularly dependent. As such, the objection to claim 7 is now moot.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §102

2-3. Claims 1-6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by FR 2,760,035 to Gilles ("the '035 reference"). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

Applicant has amended claim 1 to include limitations set forth in original claims 3 and 4. Claim 1, as amended, includes the limitation "said door being characterized in that said casing (35) of said key assembly (21) is rigidly fixed via releasable fixing means (45) to a face of an attachment element (46) set between said supporting means (16) and a through opening (15) and fixedly connected to said framework (2)."

A claim is anticipated if each and every limitation is found either expressly or inherently in a single prior art reference. *Celeritas Techs. v. Rockwell Int'l Corp.*, 150 F.3d 1354, 1361 (Fed. Cir. 1998). In the '035 reference, the barrel (12) of the key assembly (14) is disposed within a bore (19) of the part (16). The '035 reference does not disclose releasable fixing means for rigidly fixing the barrel (12) to a face of the part (16). Therefore, the '035 reference does not disclose each and every limitation in claim 1 of the above-captioned application.

Applicant has cancelled claim 3.

Claims 2 and 4-6 depend from claim 1 and, as such, are construed to incorporate by reference all the limitations of the claim to which they refer, *see* 35 U.S.C. §112, fourth paragraph. Thus, claims 2 and 4-6 are allowable.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 1-6 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by the '035 reference be withdrawn.

Applicant has added new independent claim 8. Claim 8 claims a door having an inner side, facing, in use, the inside of a motor vehicle itself, and an opposite, outer side, the door comprising a supporting framework, means for supporting an external rear-view mirror, a lock for blocking the door in a closing position, and a key assembly, which is operatively connected to said lock and can be selectively actuated by means of a control key for disabling/enabling opening of said lock from the outside of the motor vehicle, said key assembly comprising a casing and a key unit housed within said casing, which is operatively connected to said lock and can be displaced with respect to the casing itself by means of said control key, said door being

characterized in that said casing of said key assembly is rigidly fixed via releasable fixing means to a face of an attachment element fixedly connected to said framework with the interposition of a reinforcement element between said casing and said face of said attachment element, and in that said key assembly is covered, towards the outer side of the door, by said supporting means for supporting said rear-view mirror and is accessible from the outside through a seat made in the supporting means themselves.

Claim 8 includes all of the limitations of original claim 1 and limitations set forth in original claims 3, 4, and 7. As stated above, the '035 reference does not disclose releasable fixing means for rigidly fixing the barrel (12) to a face of the part (16). Therefore, claim 8 is neither taught nor disclosed by the cited references.

Applicant has added new independent claim 9. Claim 9 claims a door including a supporting framework having an inner side, an opposite outer side, and a through opening between the inner and outer sides; a supporting element fixedly secured to the outer side of the door, the supporting element including a cylindrical sleeve defining a seat; a rear-view mirror secured to the supporting element; an attachment element fixedly connected to the supporting framework between the supporting element and the through opening; a lock for blocking the door in a closing position; a key assembly operatively connected to the lock and selectively actuated for disabling/enabling opening of the lock from outside a motor vehicle, the key assembly including a casing having a peripheral flange fixed to a face of the attachment element on a side of the attachment element facing towards the inner side of the door and the key assembly is covered towards the outer side of the door by the supporting element and is accessible from outside the motor vehicle through the seat, wherein the cylindrical sleeve of the supporting element abuts the casing.

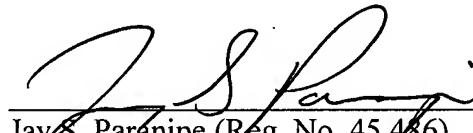
The cited references do not disclose a casing having a peripheral flange fixed to a face of an attachment element on a side of the attachment element facing towards an inner side of a

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door, as specifically required by claim 9. Therefore, claim 9 is neither taught nor disclosed by the cited references.

It is respectfully submitted that this patent application is in condition for allowance, which allowance is respectfully solicited. If the Examiner has any questions regarding this amendment or the patent application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



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